

ESTATES OF ALICE HARDAWAY AND SAMUEL N. WHITE.

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JANUARY 12, 1897.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed.

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Mr. NEILL, from the Committee on War Claims, submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany House Res. No. 485.]

The Committee on War Claims, to whom were referred the bills (H. R. 9441 and H. R. 6051) for the relief of estate of Alice Hardaway, deceased, and the estate of Samuel N. White, deceased, respectfully report as follows:

These claims for stores, supplies, and property, taken by the Federal forces for their use during the late civil war were referred by the House Committee on War Claims of a previous Congress to the Court of Claims for a determination under the act of Congress approved March 3, 1883, known as the Bowman Act.

Much testimony was taken and submitted to the court pursuant to its rules, and the preliminary question of loyalty to the Government was found in favor of the claimants, but the court did not pass upon the questions as to the amounts of stores, supplies, and property taken and furnished, as it held that the single action of the House Committee in referring said claims was not sufficient to confer jurisdiction upon it to hear and determine those questions under said act of March 3, 1883.

The claims being therefore dismissed for want of jurisdiction, the above numbered bills were introduced for the relief of the claimants.

Your committee have fully considered the facts of each claim, and upon this consideration and because the Court of Claims have found loyalty proven in each case, and it being manifest that all parties have proceeded in entire good faith before the Court of Claims and at considerable expense in taking testimony, they recommend the passage of the accompanying resolution transmitting said bills to the Court of Claims to find and report the facts in each case as provided in the act "to provide for bringing suits against the Government of the United States," approved March 3, 1887.